

A Regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held on Tuesday January 24, 2006, beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the Main Meeting Room of the Town Hall. The following members were presents.

Joseph Denneen, Chairman
William Ryan, Vice Chairman
Catherine Winston, Clerk
Al Denapoli
Michael Caron

Also Present:
Michael Boynton, Town Administrator

Mr. Denneen called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Employees of the Month, December 2005 Officers Madden, Sullivan and Zanghetti.
Arrested and prosecution of the individual.

7:30 p.m. Board of Health, Update

William Morris, Chairman of the Board of Health appeared before the Board to update them on some of the things they have been working on for the past years and what they hope to work on. Over the last year, active in the superfund, reuse and planning of the site. Healthy life style. Great Community health day. Mini grants, we have underage folks go in and try to purchase tobacco and we found some were not following the rules. Emergency preparedness plan. Working with 34 communities to get a regional plan. Sent info to families in the area in terms of what to do. Very active in local emergency planning.

Two training sessions with our license holders. Hand washing. Robin worked with a regional group and there is a new solid waste contract. Household Hazardous waste day and mini day. We think that is a benefit to the community. Have had Flu clinics and vaccinations, and routine inspections.

This year public meeting to review the superfund site. Organize a volunteer core to be able to deploy and the event they need to be activated. The contract for 20 years was for disposal. The next is for the collection.

Working with food permit tees to make sure their food supply is safe.

Mr. Denneen was impressed with the list of things the Board and Robin has done. Robin does a great job. You are really bringing things to people attention. The way you are getting involved. It is great.

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Mr. Boynton, in addition, highlight one of them. For the last several years. We have been working with West. Suburban health group. Walpole was top notch in the utilization of the health coordinator. We have a number of programs for the staff. I want to recognize the efforts that Robin has put forth. Very energetic on that.

1-19 Fee Schedule, Fire Department

Deputy Fire Chief reviewed his recommendations for fees. He explained that in addition to the existing there are new ones that he is proposing. Apartment building inspections is new. With the resale of a house, they are looking at us to do Carbon Monoxide inspections. Looking for the same fee as for a smoke detector.

Radio alarm boxes, it was at \$95 and looking at \$100. The 304 liquor license, we started this year inspections all of the Liquor License holders in town. This is new with the Fire Dept. The building department will be collecting the money on this.

Vent free space heaters. They are allowed to be installed and vent into the room. These permits will be kept separate. In 2003 we took in \$26,613 a lot of these is from smoke detectors.

Reviewed the amount of money that would be brought in with these additional fees.

MOTION moved by Mr. Ryan that we approve the fee schedule as submitted to us this evening by the Deputy Fire Chief for this year going forward until revised again, seconded by Mr. DeNapoli, VOTED 5-0-0

1-12 Resignation from Board of health

MOTION moved by Mr. Ryan to accept the Resignation of Betsey Dexter Dyer from the Board of Health with thanks, seconded by Mr. DeNapoli, VOTED 5-0-0

1-13 Banner Request, Norfolk Agricultural School

MOTION moved by Mr. Ryan to approve the request of the banner from March 11-March 25, 2006, VOTED 5-0-0

***The banner sign is need of being painted.

7:55 p.m. Library Trustees, Budgetary process

Paul Cesary and Maureen Smith, Library Trustees appeared before the Board to hopefully have a dialogue to where they can understand the budgetary process. The whole order of things. He notes that at this premature time, the trend is not good for the library. We met with Mr. Boynton a month ago. We are doing some advance planning. Since that part of the discussion did not take long. He told us that the numbers he was projecting looked grim. Had not begun to plug in values. He had opportunity to discuss

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things and at that point it was our understanding, that the process begins with the Selectmen. On January 5 we went in to deliver the application for funding assistance for a new library. When we came back that day we saw the Walpole times stated that the library was due to have its budget slashed.

One of the numbers that is bantered about is grim. We would like to know if that is the direction you would like us to go in. Do you want the services to be trimmed to near extinction. People keep asking what they can do about it. How do we stake our claim. We understand that times are tough, but we do not want to be singled out.

Mr. Denneen stated that they are not being singled out. You and I and all of us have charged the Town Administrator to present a balanced budget to Town meeting. It is up to town meeting to uphold that change, whatever their desire. It is not up to the Selectmen to tell him what to do.

Mr. Cesary was under the impression that this was a direction from the Selectmen. Mr. Denneen explained there are no budgets in this town that are untouchable. Mr. Cesary felt if trimming had to be done would it be best to do it on a percentage basis.

Mr. Caron explained that the policy and direction is set by the Board. So the situation we were in, we had a joint meeting and we talked about the projected short fall. It came out to be 66% for schools and 34% municipal.

I assume when the Town Administrator says the figures are preliminary. Ways to mitigate those cuts that you describe as disastrous. If we did not raise additional revenues or local aid, trash fees, or override. We are trying to grapple. We want the money back from the State.

Mr. Cesary understands the hardship, it goes back to this board. Essential and non essential. At some point there was a discussion where essential nonessential was discussed, can we jump in.

Mr. Caron does not think we can live without police and fire. Mr. Cesary wants the public to understand why. We are in the information business.

Ms. Winston believes we are still early in the process. She shares their concern that cuts be equitable. The library is education. Every department has to get hit. That makes it fair. Michael is watching the state numbers. I do not believe that anything is in concrete.

Mr. Ryan stated that everything is preliminary, the money is tight. I do not know how much info you have seen, throughout this town there is going to be positions cut. We are not touching police or fire and the school has a hard budget to adjust. If we give you back the money you are looking for, where does that come from? There are certain departments that maybe we can cut. People have said to me is that Libraries are a thing of the past. Most people are using computers. We have to make cuts, your'e one of the

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department that is going to have a more severe cut than anyone. As late as today we got a bill that was going to be less than what we anticipated. I believe the figure you were given was probably less than what it will be.

Mr. Cesary stated, you have decided what is a priority and what is not.

Mr. DeNapoli thinks you have done a great job. I do not think we have made any final decisions. We need to get tax bills out, inspections, requests we are looking at what are we required to do under the law. When mandated to provide fire and safety. Library there is no state mandate. These are some of the things we are facing. Looking at a budget that is going to be disastrous.

Mr. Cesary suggests at some point, this Board list the essential town services. Get it out there. Let people see where the money is going. People have been asking me what can they do about this. They do not understand this process.

Mr. Boynton explained this board has never taken a vote or directed me on what is essential and non essential. One option is level cut across the Board, or prioritize. This process is no different this year than any other year. Every year in this Town, the process starts in December. Some times departments get more and some get less. That is what happens. As the charter requires that I do. I will give my budget message in February. The Selectmen goals and objectives will not be met this year. When we get to the point of designing. What must be delivered. We are very preliminary in this discussion. The rate projection for health insurance is better. Those rates have not been voted yet. Given the meeting today, it looks good. On the municipal side I have to decide how to allocate the funds. There is a likelihood that local aid will be increased. I understand the concerns.

Mr. DeNapoli, back to the West Suburban health group. Mr. Boynton explained we are still looking at an increase of 15%. Mr. DeNapoli, we are talking that we may have \$300,000 less in cost but we still are ahead \$800,000. I think it is good that you come forward and tell us how you feel. I think that dialogue is important.

Mr. Boynton stated that Police and Fire do have cuts. I don't mean that people should not come forward. But we do have a long time before May 1. My budget numbers are simply the start.

Mr. Cesary stated the number you gave us could push us off the cliff, It means loss of certification from the state. If we are not certified.

8:30 p.m. Bristol Square Café, Inc, Public Hearing

MOTION moved by Mr. Ryan to open the public hearing for Transfer of Stock for Bristol Square Café, seconded by Mr. DeNapoli, VOTED 5-0-0

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Attorney Carty, appearing before the Board on behalf of the application. This is a transfer of stock and change in Officers.

MOTION moved by Mr. Ryan to close the public hearing, seconded by Mr. Caron, VOTED 5-0-0

MOTION moved by Mr. Ryan to approve the transfer of stock and the change in Officers/Directors for Bristol Square Café, Inc, seconded by Mr. DeNapoli, VOTED, 5-0-0

1-11 Walpole Country Club, Change in Manager

Norman B. Hall appeared before the Board for a change in manager. Originally from Vermont. Owned his own Restaurant in North Conway for many years. Worked at Woodland Golf club for 15 years. Very active on the national club association. Tip certified.

MOTION moved by Mr. DeNapoli to approve the change of manager for the Walpole Country Club from Natale Umbro to Norman B. Hall, seconded by Ms. Winston, VOTED 5-0-0

Gift Account Acceptances

1-14 Dan Feeney account

MOTION moved by Mr. Caron to accept the gift in the amount of \$300 for the Danile Feeney Gift Account, seconded by Mr. DeNapoli, VOTED 5-0-0

1-15 Police Safety account

MOTION moved by Mr. Caron to accept the gift for police safety account in the amount of \$300, seconded by Mr. DeNapoli, VOTED 5-0-0

1-16 Defibrillator account

MOTION moved by Mr. Caron to accept the gift for defibrillator fund in the amount of \$2,400, seconded by Mr. DeNapoli, VOTED 5-0-0

1-17 4th Annual Cathy's 5K

MOTION moved by Mr. Ryan to approve the request for the Cathy Walk/Run, seconded by Mr. DeNapoli, VOTED 4-0-1 (Mr. Caron abstained)

1-18 Sunday entertainment license, Footlighters

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MOTION moved by Mr. Ryan to approve Sunday entertainment licenses for February 19, 2006, February 26, 2006 and May 14, 2006 and May 21, 2006 for the Walpole Footlighters, seconded by Mr. DeNapoli, VOTED 5-0-0

1-23 Spring Town meeting Warrant, Closing

MOTION moved by Mr. Ryan to close the Annual Spring town meeting warrant, seconded by Mr. Caron, VOTED 5-0-0

1-19 Conveyance of Deed, Map 20 Lot 26, Washington Street

Bid Contract No. 2003-20 was awarded by the Board of Selectmen in 2003. One bid had been received for \$83,500. It was awarded to Mr. Francis C. Ciavattone. This is one that got hung up in land court. We finally got the final order of taking. It has been recorded and we are going forward with the sale of the parcel. It was sold for \$83,500. He must be a very patient man. This has taken three years.

MOTION moved by Mr. Ryan to approve the Quitclaim Deed to Francis D. Ciavattone Construction, Inc. a Massachusetts corporation, with an address of 204 East S. E. Walpole, a parcel of vacant land located off Washington Street, Walpole, shown on Assessor's Map 20 as Lot 26, seconded by Mr. Caron, VOTED 5-0-0

Town Administrator's Weekly Report

Downtown traffic mitigation. Look at the bid again. What we could do within this concept what we can do with paint. Unless the Board has any specific objections. Looking at this project again. Traffic signalization. Opticom system on all lights. The actual channeling of traffic. We believe we can do that. We want to reject the bids and do the Opticom and traffic. Mr. Denneen suggested doing whatever we can do to get started. It has gone on too long.

Mr. Ryan thought we were just getting into striping. Keep it simple do the lights and the markings and the Opticom. We all know this has been going on for quite a while.

Ms. Winston likes the idea of subcontracting this out.

Mr. DeNapoli thinks we should do everything we can to save money.

Gillette stadium: parking lot hearing, expansion of the new lot. That would impact 11 homes in Walpole. I am going to try to go, Jim might be going. Mitigation factors, noise barriers, fencing.

Mr. Ryan noted there is a proposal for a new sporting goods store. I think this is part of that reason. Some of it is relocating.

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Mr. Boynton explained that Walpole works very well with Foxboro folks. I am optimistic they will be receptive to our concerns.

Community Development –Re-organization plan: I need the Board to take a look at this. We had talked about this a few years ago. Several key components. Permit streamlining. It is something would have to be presented as part of the Reorganization plan. You would be required to have a public hearing. Job description that we have in existence. Several updates have been made to it. Those are changes that can be made. It does not need your action tonight. The funding for the position is included within my budget proposal.

Economic Development: We may have an opportunity to get a part time person. This person is currently with North Eastern University. I will meet with him Thursday.

E. Walpole PWED: The plans are due on Friday. We hope to have a meeting by next Friday.

**Asked if board members would meet early at 6:30 p.m. next regular meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

1-21 Chapter 70 Funding Letter

No community would receive less than 2000 per pupil. That could be a potential of 2 million dollars. The Board of Selectmen should consider joining the School committee lobby for this type of aid.

Mr. DeNapoli fully supports this type of proposal. Long overdue for Walpole. One of the figures that scream out is how Walpole took a cut in 2003. While many other municipalities have rebounded to be over the amounts before they were cut. When you compare to surrounding towns.

Mr. Boynton talked about ed reform. When you look at it, communities like Franklin. The state has already contributed to many communities more than Walpole has ever received.

MOTION moved by Mr. Ryan that we the Board of Selectmen support the chapter 70 minimal proposal which would provide a minimum of \$ 2, 000 per student for each town/city in Mass, seconded by Mr. Caron, VOTED , 5-0-0

MOTION moved by Mr. Ryan to send a letter in support of this chapter 70 proposal, seconded by Mr. Caron, VOTED 5-0-0

Proclamation, Greg Burke

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MOTION moved by Mr. DeNapoli to sign the proclamation for Greg Burke, seconded by Ms. Winston, VOTED 5-0-0

MINUTES

MOTION moved by Mr. Caron to approve the minutes of 11/15/05, seconded by Mr. Ryan, VOTED 5-0-0

MOTION moved by Mr. Caron to approve the minutes of 11/29/05, seconded by Mr. Ryan, VOTED 5-0-0

MOTION moved by Mr. Caron to approve the minutes of 12/13/05, seconded by Mr. Ryan, VOTED 5-0-0

MOTION moved by Mr. Caron to approve the minutes of 12/27/05, seconded by Mr. Ryan, VOTED 5-0-0

MOTION moved by Mr. Caron to approve the Executive session minutes dated 12/27/05, seconded by Mr. Ryan, VOTED 5-0-0

MOTION moved by Mr. Ryan to adjourn at 9:25 p.m., seconded by Ms. Winston, VOTED 5-0-0

Respectfully submitted

Catherine Winston, Clerk